



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

At its meeting held May 11, 2004, the Board took the following action:

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The following statement was entered into the record for Supervisors Yaroslavsky and Burke:

“On April 20, 2004, an inmate housed in Men’s Central Jail and scheduled to testify for the prosecution was killed by another inmate. This crime follows a series of other lethal attacks by inmates against inmates in Sheriff’s custody facilities. On December 16, 2003, this Board asked that the Sheriff take corrective actions to reduce such homicides in the jail. The most recent inmate homicide is particularly alarming in that it follows a series of recommendations made by the Sheriff following previous homicides at Sheriff’s jail facilities.”

Therefore, at the suggestion of Supervisor Yaroslavsky and on motion of Supervisor Burke, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, unanimously carried (Supervisor Yaroslavsky being absent), the Board requested Special Counsel Merrick Bobb, in consultation with the Sheriff, to report back to the Board in Closed Session within 30 days on the circumstances surrounding the April 20, 2004 death of an inmate housed in Men's Central Jail, with the report to consider prior recommendations and corrective actions proposed to reduce inmate homicides, and specifically address how those actions failed to prevent the most recent killing; and also include additional recommendations that can be incorporated in courthouse and jail procedures that would prevent such homicides and other lethal attacks in County jail facilities in the future.

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Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor
Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel

Letters sent to:

Sheriff
Special Counsel Merrick Bobb